IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (previously presented) In a system that includes a computer device and a printing device, a method for providing debit print job accounting, the method comprising:

receiving a request from a user to render a print job;

spooling data of the print job to a spooler of one of:

    (i)   a client computer device; and

    (ii)   a print server;

using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and an account of the user, wherein the print subsystem component is one of:

    (i)   the spooler; and

    (ii)   a print processor;

using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job;

using the print subsystem component and the parsed data to determine a cost for consumables to render the print job, wherein the cost for consumables is determined prior to despooling print data of the print job to the printing device;

using the print subsystem component to determine an amount of available funds in the user's account; and

if the amount of available funds exceeds the cost for consumables, using the print subsystem component to debit the cost of the print job from the user's account and rendering the print job at the printing device.

2.   (canceled)

3.   (canceled)

4.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 3, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user further comprises receiving information from the user to perform said authentication.

5.   (original) A method as recited in claim 4, wherein the information received includes a password.

6.   (canceled)

7.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises embedding the user and the account information in the spooled data.

8.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein if the amount of available funds does not exceed the cost for consumables, denying a spooling of the print data to the printing device.

9.   (canceled)

10.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job comprises:

determining sheet assembly requirements for rendering the print job;

determining the resolution to be used to render the print job;

determining whether binding materials are to be used for the print job;

determining the type of print to render the print job;

determining sheet assembly characteristics of the print job; and

determining a type of paper and ink to be used to render the print job.

11.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF pathnames.

12.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein said determining the number of pages includes identifying the number of page boundaries for the print job.

13.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF page file offset links.

14.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

saving print instructions and device context in EMF; and

initiating spooling of journaled data to the spooler.

15.   (canceled)

16.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

rendering print instruction and device context data into printer ready data; and

initiating spooling of printer ready data to the spooler.

17.   (canceled)

18.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

saving print instructions and device context in EMF;

spooling EMF data to a client spooler;

despooling EMF data to a client print processor; and

initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

19.   (canceled)

20.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 10, further comprising:

writing print instructions to a printer driver;

rendering print instructions and device context data into printer ready data;

spooling printer ready data to a client spooler;

despooling printer ready data to a client print processor; and

initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

21 – 28 (canceled)

29.   (currently amended) A computer program product embodied in a computer readable medium for implementing within a computer system a method for providing debit print job accounting, the computer program product comprising:

a computer readable medium for providing computer program code means utilized to implement the method, wherein the computer program code means is comprised of executable code for implementing the steps of:

receiving a request from a user to render a print job;

spooling data of the print job to a <u>client-side</u> spooler~~; of one of:~~

~~(i)   a client computer device; and~~

~~(ii)   a print server;~~

using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and an account of the user, wherein the print subsystem component is one of:

(i)   the <u>client-side</u> spooler; and

(ii)   a <u>client-side</u> print processor;

using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job;

using the print subsystem component and the parsed data to determine a cost for consumables to render the print job, wherein the cost for consumables is determined prior to despooling print data of the print job to the printing device;

using the print subsystem component to determine an amount of available funds in the user's account; and

if the amount of available funds exceeds the cost for consumables, using the print subsystem component to debit the cost of the print job from the user's account and rendering the print job at the printing device.

30.   (canceled)

31.   (canceled)

32.   (canceled)

33.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein the computer program code means is further comprised of executable code for implementing the steps of:

determining sheet assembly requirements for rendering the print job;

determining the resolution to be used to render the print job;

determining whether binding materials are to be used for the print job;

determining the type of print to render the print job;

determining sheet assembly characteristics of the print job; and

determining a type of paper and ink to be used to render the print job.

34.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises embedding the user and account information in the spooled data.

35. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using an application program interface call to pass the user and account information.

36. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a spool directory to pass the user and account information.

37. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a registry to pass the user and account information.

38. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein if the amount of available funds does not exceed the cost for consumables, denying a spooling of the print data to the printing device.

39. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF pathnames.

40. (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes identifying the number of page boundaries for the print job.

41.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, wherein said determining the number of pages includes counting the number of EMF page file offset links.

42.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:

> writing print instructions to a printer driver;
>
> saving print instructions and device context in EMF; and
>
> initiating spooling of journaled data to the spooler.

43.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:

> writing print instructions to a printer driver;
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> rendering print instruction and device context data into printer ready data; and
>
> initiating spooling of printer ready data to the spooler.

44.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:

> writing print instructions to a printer driver;
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> saving print instructions and device context in EMF;
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> spooling EMF data to a client spooler;
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> despooling EMF data to a client print processor; and
>
> initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

45.   (previously presented) A computer program product as recited in claim 29, further comprising:

> writing print instructions to a printer driver;
>
> rendering print instructions and device context data into printer ready data;
>
> spooling printer ready data to a client spooler;
>
> despooling printer ready data to a client print processor; and
>
> initiating queuing of the print job on a print server.

46.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using an application program interface call to pass the user and account information.

47.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a spool directory to pass the user and account information.

48.   (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein said using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and the account of the user comprises using a registry to pass the user and account information.

49.   (new) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the spooler is a client-side spooler and wherein the print processor is a client-side print processor.

50.   (new) A method as recited in claim 49, wherein using a print subsystem component to authenticate the user and an account of the user, using the print subsystem component to parse the spooled data and determine a layout and a number of pages of the print job, using the print subsystem component and the parsed data to determine a cost for consumables to render the print job, using the print subsystem component to determine an amount of available funds in the user's account, and using the print subsystem component to debit the cost of the print job from the user's account occur client-side.